

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 05726 091525Z

67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 /082 W

----- 075513

R 091401Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9063

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 5726

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PINT, AU

SUBJECT PROSECUTOR DROPS WAR CRIMES COMPLAINT AGAINST FPO

CHAIRMAN PETER

REF: VIENNA 0121

VIENNA'S PUBLIC PROSECUTOR ANNOUNCED JULY 8 THAT NO ACTION WOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST FREEDOM PARTY CHAIRMAN FRIEDRICH PETER IN CONNECTION WITH COMPLAINT AGAINST HIM FILED NOVEMBER 11, 1975, BY VIENNA JEWISH COMMUNITY (ISRAELITISCHE KULTUSGEMEINDE) ON BEHALF OF SIMON WIESENTHAL, CHIEF OF JEWISH DOCUMENTATION CENTER. CASE BEGAN WITH WIESENTHAL'S REVELATIONS LAST OCTOBER THAT PETER HAD SERVED IN NOTORIOUS SS FIRST INFANTRY BRIGADE WHEN UNIT WAS ENGAGED IN LIQUIDATIONS OF JEWS ON EASTERN FRONT DURING WORLD WAR II AND EVENTUALLY RESULTED IN CONFRONTATION BETWEEN CHANCELLOR KREISKY AND WIESENTHAL. KREISKY-WIESENTHAL CONFRONTATION ENDED AS REPORTED REFTEL; VIENNA PROSECUTOR'S FINDING THAT INFORMATION FROM WIESENTHAL AS WELL AS OTHER INFORMATION SOLICITED FROM WEST GERMAN LEGAL AUTHORITIES AT MUNICH AND LUDWIGSBURG PROVIDED NO EVIDENCE THAT PETER PERSONALLY PARTICIPATED IN LIQUIDATION OF JEWS EFFECTIVELY
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ENDS JUDICIAL ACTIONS IN MATTER. ACTION PAVES WAY FOR PETER'S

"HONORABLE RETIREMENT" AS FPO CHAIRMAN DURING FPO CONGRESS
THIS FALL, OR EVEN HIS REPLACEMENT SHOULD HE NOT DEPART
GRACEFULLY. BUCHANAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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